

Commissioner for Patents
Reply to Office Action of February 8, 2005
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Serial No.: 09/966,391

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections -35 USC § 103

The Office Action rejected claims 21-28 and 30-35 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seesink in view of Kazerounian. Applicant disagrees for at least the following reasons:

1) U.S. Patent No. 5,483,434 to Seesink describes a circuit comprising two cascaded stages for the charge pump, but Applicant disagrees that the clock signals Φ_1 and Φ_2 are non-overlapping clock signals. In the Abstract, Seesink teaches that his circuit utilizes a clock generator "generating two clock pulses being 180° out of phase". Furthermore, in Col. 3, lines 32 to 36, the reference reads: "At its other terminal each capacitor receives a clock pulse Φ_1 and Φ_2 generated by an oscillator 3. The oscillator 3 generates two clock pulses being 180° out of phase with respect to one another, said clock pulses being supplied alternatively to the successive capacitors C_i ". This explains that the clock signals are complimentary but does not imply or suggest that the signals are non-overlapping, as claimed in the rejected claims. Furthermore, Seesink does not teach or suggest the use of different oxide thickness in the construction of the transistors, as also claimed in the rejected set of claims.]

2) Regarding EP 0 323 156 to Kazerounian et al., again the clock signals Φ and Φ' are shown to be complimentary signals, not non-overlapping clock signals (see Col. 1, lines 35 to 38). Kazerounian et al. teach the use of different oxide thickness (Col. 3, lines 1 to 27 and Col. 5, lines 24 to 27), but do not teach or suggest both, the use of non-overlapping clock signals and different oxide thickness as claimed in the rejected claims.

Nonetheless, in the interest of issuing a patent for this invention, applicant has amended the application as explained below. However, Applicant reserves the right to pursue the cancelled subject matter in continuation application.

Claim 29 is amended to include the subject matter of claims 21, 22 and 27.

Claims 21, 22 and 27 are cancelled and the rejection of those claims is traversed.

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Claims 23-25 and 28 are amended to depend from amended claim 29, deemed allowable. The rejection of claims 23-25 and 28 is thereby traversed.

Claims 30 and 34 are cancelled and claim 31 is amended to include the subject matter of claims 30, 34 and 29. The rejection of claims 30, 31 and 34 is thereby traversed.

Claims 32 and 33 are amended to depend from amended claim 31 and the rejection of claims 32 and 33 is traversed.

Claim 35 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 22, 27 and 29, rewritten in method form. The rejection of claim 35 is thereby traversed.

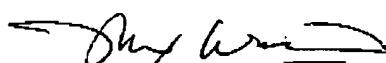
Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claim 29 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

As noted above, claims 29, 31 and 35 have been amended accordingly. Claims 22-29 and 31-33 and 35 which remain pending in this application are now considered to be in a condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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